BLACK LAGOON

005

STORY & ART BY
REI HIROE

PARENTAL ADVISORY
EXPLICIT CONTENT

005
STORY & ART BY
REI HIROE
BLACK LAGOON

Dutch
SKIPPER OF THE OF THE BLACK LAGOON AND LEADER OF THE CREW. DUTCH STAYS COOL NO MATTER HOW BAD THINGS GET. HIS BACKGROUND INCLUDES MILITARY SERVICE, INCLUDING A TOUR IN VIETNAM.
Benny
THE MAN IN CHARGE OF THE HIGH-TECH ELECTRONICS ONBOARD THE BLACK LAGOON. BENNY ESCAPED FROM THE U.S. AND IS ON THE RUN FROM BOTH THE FBI AND THE MAFIA.
Crew of the Black Lagoon
Rock
A FORMER JAPANESE SALARYMAN, WHOSE REAL NAME IS ROKURŌ OKAJIMA, ABANDONED BY HIS COMPANY AFTER THE CREW OF THE BLACK LAGOON ABDUCTED HIM. ROCK LATER JOINED HIS CAPTORS.
Revy
THE BLACK LAGOON'S TOP GUNSLINGER. NICKNAMED "TWO HAND." HER FOUL MOUTH AND EXTREMELY SHORT FUSE USUALLY GET HER IN LOTS OF TROUBLE.

STORY

Rock, formerly known as Rokurō Okajima, was a faceless employee at a large Japanese company. On a business trip he was abducted and held for ransom by the crew of the *Black Lagoon*. Shocked and angered when his bosses callously threw him to the wolves in order to save their own skins, Rock decided to change course in life and joined the crew of the *Black Lagoon*.

A year later Rock, along with Revy as his bodyguard, returns to his homeland as an interpreter for Balalaika, who intends to carve out a niche in the Japanese underworld through an alliance with the Washimine-gumi. Rock befriends Yukio, who happens to be the only daughter of the Washimine's late boss. When the agreement breaks down, Rock and Yukio are forced to make a terrible choice in the midst of a bloody gang war!!

Yukio Washimine

High school senior and the only daughter of the Washimine-gumi's late boss. Succeeds her father to save the family.

Balalaika

Boss of the Thai branch of "Hotel Moscow," a noted Russian criminal gang. Balalaika once was a captain in the Red Army of the former Soviet Union.

Chaka

Low-level Washimine thug and wannabe gunman.

Ginji Matsuzaki

Yakuza enforcer once known as "Manslayer Ginji." Feeling indebted to Yukio's father, he has continued to watch over her.

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005

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IT'S ALL JUST DUDES TALKIN' IN JAPANESE. ISN'T THERE ANY MUSIC ON?
I DON'T UNDERSTAND A WORD THEY'RE SAYING!
WHERE'S THE FAR EAST NETWORK?
WHAT IS THIS CRAP? THIS DJ'S PLAYING SOME SHITTY-ASS MUSIC...
...OH WAIT!
PI
FM 72.83
NYRT
NYRT
NYRT

Chapter 30: Fujiyama Gangsta Paradise - Pt. IX

MR. INTERPRETER.
TAKE THE NEXT LEFT.
WAWA
LESS TRAFFIC THAT WAY.
THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT, MR. GINJI.
CAN-NANA HIGHWAY! CAN-NANA HIGHWAY! CAN-NANA HIGHWAY! CAN-NANA HIGHWAY FEVER!!

CHK
CHK
...
I'LL TELL YA...
KERR
RANG!
...THINGS SURE HAVE TAKEN AN UNEXPECTED TURN.
MAN...
WHIS

GET IT, JUMBO?
WHP
YOU DON'T SMELL LIKE...
GUNPOWDER.
KK
エイ
...TH' HELL IS THIS?
MY GUN HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH HOW YOSHIDA BOUGHT THE FARM.
...MR. GINJI...
CHK
WE DIDN'T DO THIS!
HOTEL MOSCOW HASN'T BEEN HERE EITHER.

WHOO
WE CAME HERE TO GET YUKIO OUT OF HARM'S WAY...
...AND THIS IS WHAT WE FOUND.
PLEASE, BELIEVE ME. WHAT IF YOU WERE HOTEL MOSCOW?
WOULD YOU STAY BEHIND AND LINGER IN THE MIDDLE OF ENEMY TERRITORY AFTER YOU JUST RAIDED THEM?
SHHK
THAT MAKES ABSOLUTELY NO SENSE. AM I WRONG?
HOLD ON MR. GINJI!
I'M NOT DONE YET.
....YOU STORMED IN HERE...
...YOU WERE ALONE.
WHEN...
THE FACT YOU CAME BACK HERE ALONE MEANS THE REST OF YOUR MEN ARE BACK AT THE OFFICE?
IF YOU HAD ANY HELP, THERE SHOULDN'T BE ANY REASON FOR YOU TO RUSH OUT OF HERE.
I'M RIGHT AREN'T I?

THERE WERE NO SOUNDS OF CARS WHEN YOU ARRIVED.
BESIDES, THE ONLY THINGS HERE ARE TIRE MARKS.
...
...
AND HOW FAR CAN YOU GET ON FOOT?
THE PEOPLE THAT DID THIS CAME HERE BY CAR. YOU CAN'T CATCH UP TO THEM.
JUDGING FROM THE NUMBER OF FOOTPRINTS ...
...THEY CAME HERE IN A BIG GROUP FROM A DISTANT LOCATION.
THEY HAVE NUMBERS AND ONE OF THEM IS ARMED.
ARE YOU GOING TO TAKE THEM ALL ON ALONE?
FWOO
HE KNEW YOU'D COME BACK FOR HER.
BUT HE...
...IT'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU FOLKS.
THERE'S NO TIME TO ARGUE. WHOEVER DID THIS WAS ON THE INSIDE.
AND HE IS NOT THE TYPE OF PERSON WHO TAKES HIS TIME.
...COULDN'T HAVE PREDICTED THE PRESENCE OF A SKILLED GUNMAN.
I KNOW YOU ALREADY KNOW WHO IT IS.
...THE REST IS UP TO YOUR JUDGMENT.

VGGG
...
Y'SEE, WHAT I DON'T GET IS...
VR
O
O
...WHY YOU'RE HELPING ME.
MR. GINJI.
I CAN'T HELP THINKING SHE DOESN'T BELONG IN ALL THIS.
SHE SHOULD BE LIVING A NORMAL LIFE.
KR
A

...
THINGS MIGHT'A TURNED OUT THAT WAY IF SOMEBODY HAD DONE HIS JOB...
"IF SOMEBODY HAD DONE HIS JOB."
RMMMMM
BAKAN
STRIKE!

ANOTHER POINT AND ANOTHER PIECE.
TOP OR BOTTOM?
HMM...?
BOTTOM?
WHATCHA THINK OKAZAKI?
BUT WON'T THE BET BE OVER ONCE SHE'S BUCK-NAKED?
CHAKA?
HMM?
OH I GOT IT. HOW 'BOUT THIS.
LET'S SHAVE HER. ♡ THAT'D BE HILARIOUS. ♡

SO NOW WHAT CHAKA?
WHAT DO WE DO?
WE SHOULD HURRY UP AND SELL HER OFF.
GANG RAPIN' HER AND DITCHING HER'S NO FUN. WON'T MAKE NO MONEY THAT WAY.
WHAT'S THE HARM IN TAKING A NIGHT TO THINK ABOUT IT?
WE NEED TO TAKE CARE OF THAT FUCKIN' SAMURAI GUY TOO, BEFORE THINGS GET REALLY WHACK.
THEN WE CAN GIVE HER TO THE KOSA KAI OR THE RUSSIANS, RIGHT?
KCHK
KC
HK
DUDE...
WHAT'RE WE SUPPOSED TO DO WITH THESE?
WHAT'RE WE DOIN' HERE MAN? SERIOUSLY...
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO SHOOT THIS THING.
CHK
...SHIT...
WHO'D'VE THOUGHT IT'D COME TO THIS?
Y-YOU THINK WE SHOULD SPLIT?
YEAH.
LET'S GET THE FUCK OUTTA HERE WHEN THE SHIT GOES DOWN.
YEAH. I'M WITH YOU MAN.

THW
Ok
I HEARD THAT. ♡
FLW
HMM? YOU LITTLE SHITS.
TWK
TWK
TWK
YOU GOT THAT?
YOU'VE BEEN RIDIN' OUR BACKS AND REAPIN' THE BENEFITS AND NOW YOU'RE TALKIN' ABOUT SPLITTING?
ANYBODY WHO TRIES TO LEAVE NOW'S GONNA GET HIS ASS EXECUTED. YOU GOT THAT?

HUH?
WHAT THE FUCK, BITCH?
DON'T GIMME THAT LOOK.
GRRD
ONCE WE TAKE CARE OF THAT SAMURAI ASSHOLE, WE'LL FIND A BUYER FOR YOU. I KNOW JUST THE GUY...
DUDE'S HIGH ON X ALL DAY LONG.
CAN'T GET IT UP UNLESS IT'S SOME HARDCORE S&M SHIT.
HUH?
GONNA DOPE YOU UP TOO...
HAVE YOU SHAKIN' YOUR ASS EVERY DAY, EATIN' HIS SHIT...
YANK
YOU SEEM AWFULLY POISED AFTER ALL THAT SHIT WE PUT YOU THROUGH.
HUH?
YEAH THAT'S RIGHT, GO AND KEEP PATRONIZING US LIKE THAT.

DON'T WORRY, I'LL BUY THE VIDEO WHEN IT COMES OUT.
THEN MAYBE YOU'LL CHANGE YOUR MIND.
HUH?
ヒラノボウル
WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO?
ROCK.
SHC HAK
KLNK
HEH.
CALL IT THE DARK TOWER.
KLK KLK
SHF
SIMPLE. WATCH OUR ASSES WHEN WE NEED YOU TO.
WE'RE GOIN' IN THE FRONT, SO I WANT YOU AROUND BACK.
THE CAVALRY HAS ARRIVED.

TMP
REVY!
WILL YOU TWO BE ABLE TO COMMUNICATE? YOU GUYS DON'T SPEAK-
NO PROBLEM.
EW
WHEN THE SHIT HITS THE FAN...
...WE'LL BE MOVING ON INSTINCT.
THAT'S JUST HOW WE'RE MADE.
TICK
山田時計店

YO...
YOU GUYS GOT ANY ZIPPO OIL?
SHUT THE FUCK UP. WHAT? YOU WANNA TAKE THIS OUTSIDE?
WHATEVER. YOU DIDN'T MAKE THAT MUCH OFF MAHJONG.
HEY, DIDYA HEAR ABOUT THAT GUY WHO RAN OFF WITH THE TAKE IN SHINOKUBO...
YEAH, THEY CHASED DOWN THAT IRANIAN DUDE WITH A SWORD, RIGHT?
TMP
TMP
...THAT GUY'S WANTED FOR THAT NOW...
...?!
TOK
TOK

WSH
HH
HP
TH-KRASHH
WH
A

WOW!
THEY REALLY CAME, EH? WHATEVER FOR I WONDER? ♡

SH MMM!
FRONT
...GIN-SAN...
...
GIN-SAN...
...
...YOU GENTLEMEN ...
WELL, MY DEAR REVY. WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?
SO YOU *DID* WANNA FUCK AFTER ALL, HUH? COOL!

...
...HAVE REALLY DONE IT THIS TIME.
YOU WANNA SEE MY SWORD SO BADLY...?!
CHK
SHHH
VERY WELL. I'LL SEND YOU ALL...
...TO PARADISE.

Chapter 31: Fujiyama Gangsta Paradise - Pt. X

Chapter 31: Fujiyama Gangsta Paradise - Pt. X

KILL EM ALL BABY!!

SCH
CHAK
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM

KA
QUIT HIDIN' AND...
...SHOW ME SOME BALLS!
WAARGH!
C'MON! GO!!
RL
AM
DO
CHECK IT OUT! CHECK IT OUT!
HAVE YOU EVER SEEN...
...A BRAWL LIKE THIS?!
OW
TH
N
K
SC
RA
BA
BAM
BL
H
AK

KA-KRASH
BA
NG
DA
RAAAGH!
STRIKE
DING
HE'S ALL YOURS.

WHOA!
THIS SHIT IS GETTING SERIOUS!
HEY YUKI! YOU'RE COMIN' WITH ME!
MISS!
C'MON!
BOOM
BOOM
YOU BETTER KEEP UP!
YAH HAH HAH!

FUCKIN' HELL! THAT BITCH IS NUTS!
I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M GETTIN' THE CHANCE TO GET AT HER IN A PLACE LIKE THIS!
...OW! SHIT!
SHIT!
THE STAGE HAS TO BE SET JUST RIGHT! HUH, YUKI...
...WHA?!
TNK
TNK
TNK
TNK
BOOM
BOOM
SLIP
WHMP
HEY.
...OW MAN, SHIT?!
WHO THE FUCK... WHAT IS THIS, SOAP?!...?

STRIKE!
OCK
KBA
BLAM BLAM
SSH
K
WHAA
?!

WHAT THE FUCK ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY?
CHK
YOU GONNA "GIVE" ME SOMETHING?
GIVE ME WHAT? HUH?
W-W-W-WAIT....!
FLAP FLAP
QUIT YAPPING YOU GOOFBALL. YOU GONNA GIVE IT TO ME OR NOT? WHICH IS IT?
I GIVE UP! SERIOUSLY! I GIVE UP!
FLAP
SERIOUSLY WAIT! I GIVE! I GIVE!
BANG
JUMBO!
GAME'S UP.
フロア案内図
WE'LL GO THROUGH THE HALLS AND MEET AT THE POOL. ALL RIGHT?
BOY WE SURE MADE A MESS. ALL THAT'S LEFT TO DO IS MOP THE PLACE UP.
LET'S SPLIT UP AND GO LOOK FOR OUR PRINCESS AND THAT SACK OF SHIT.

WHAT A STIFF.
IF YOU BUMP INTO ROCK, DRAG HIM ALONG FOR THE RIDE OKAY?
HE MIGHT ALREADY BE WITH THE PRINCESS IF WE'RE LUCKY.
WELL THEN...
ALL RIGHT, I'M COUNTIN' ON YOU, PARTNER.
KBANG
I PITY YOU FUCKS. YOU GUYS ARE SHIT OUTTA LUCK...
NO ONE'S GETTIN' OUTTA HERE ALIVE. NO ONE.
RUN AS FAST AS YOU CAN, 'CUZ YOU'VE JUST CHECKED INTO MOTEL HELL. AND GUESS WHAT...
THE BOOGIEMAN'S DOIN' ROOM SERVICE!
SHH

SCUTTLE
YAAHH!
...AGH!
KR
A
KR
KR
KR
KA
BLA
M
TNK
TNK
TNK
Huh huh
HMPH.
IT'S LIKE HUNTING DUCKS.
KA
BA
NG
TIME TO LIVE FOREVER, BABY.

WHY'S...
...IT SO QUIET...?
CHAKA?
YOU THINK THE OTHER GUYS ARE ...
I FUCKING HEARD YOU.
SHIT, I DUNNO ...
MAYBE THEY'RE DEAD?
...!
THAT'S IT!! YOU CRAZY BASTARD!
CHAKA ?!
I'M SICK OF THIS SHIT! I AIN'T GOIN' NOWHERE WITH YOU!
IF YOU HADN'T...
BL

DA
...W...
WAAGH!
HMM?
OKAY THEN.
CLAT TER
FIND THE BITCH IF YOU GOT TIME TO RUN YOUR MOUTH.
OUR PLAN'S ALL FUCKED UP ANYWAY.
HUH?
BANG
BANG
BANG
WOOO
WHAT A SURPRISE.
OH MY...
MY.
SEEIN' AS YOU'RE STILL STANDING TELLS ME YOU HAVEN'T RUN INTO THE BIG GUY YET.
KILLIN' YOUR OWN MEN, EH?
YOU REALLY ARE A SCUMBAG.

NAH.
BUT, OH WELL, WHATEVER.
TOK
I'VE BEEN WAITIN' FOR YOU. I'VE NEVER FACED A FEMALE GUNMAN BEFORE IN MY LIFE.
I FINALLY HAVE MY CHANCE.
SO FUCK ME ALREADY, WILL YA, REVY?
A-HA.
YEAH.
WHEN THIS CAN DROPS, THAT'S OUR SIGNAL, PUSSY CAT.
I GET IT...
VERY FUNNY.
READY...
FLIP
TMP
YO...

TH
TONK
THMP
THMP THMP
YOU WANTED TO FACE OFF AGAINST ME AS A GUNMAN?
DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH. LIKE I'D ACTUALLY THROW DOWN WITH A THIRD-RATE SACK OF SHIT LIKE YOU.
I'D LOVE TO KILL YA, BUT NOT IF YOU'RE GONNA MAKE IT SO DAMN EASY. THAT'S WHY...
...I'M LEAVING YOUR ASS TO JUMBO.

HEY?!
WAIT.
COME BACK HERE!
STOP!
IF IT'S FUN YOU'RE LOOKIN' FOR...
...I HOPE YOU ENJOY GETTIN' YOUR ASS PLOWED BY JUMBO.
YOU PIECE OF SHIT.
...YOU...
FUCKIN'...
...BITCH!
DRIP
DRIP
SWIMMING POOL
AM 9:00～PM 5:00／会員 PM
HUFF.
HUFF.
HUFF.
TK
TK
TK
SLA

SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING, JUMBO.
I BROUGHT YOU YOUR PROM DATE.
VO
OM
AW MAN, YOU AGAIN?
YOUR LITTLE SKANK IS GONE, MAN. I SHOT HER.
THERE'S NOTHIN' FOR YOU TO DO HERE SO GO GRILL SOME TAKOYAKI OR WHATEVER.
KCHK
...A CUNNING LITTLE DOG LIKE YOU...
...WOULD NEVER THROW AWAY HIS MEAL TICKET.
...AIN'T THAT RIGHT?

...ALL RIGHT, FINE.
GRRK
WELL...
LET'S SEE WHAT YOU CAN DO.
YOU MAY DRAW...
CHHT
...WHEN-EVER YOU WISH.
...ASS-HOLE!

ИКА
N
G

AH
CLAK
IH
OY

SHCK
SPLASH

GASP!
AAA...
GASP!
YOU FUCKING BASTARDS! GASP! I'LL...!!
PTOO!
I'LL KILL YOU... GLUB!...
I'LL FUCKING KILL YOU... I'LL KILL...
IT'S GOTTEN QUIET.
SEEMS LIKE REVY AND MR. GIN HAVE DONE THEIR THING.
BUT LET'S STAY IN HERE JUST IN CASE.

...MR. OKAJIMA ...
WHY DID YOU COME?
...
I COULDN'T LEAVE YOU ALONE.
WHEN I FOUND OUT...
...YOU'D BEEN DRAGGED INTO...
...THIS WHOLE MESS... OUR JOB...
...
THMP
...I SEE.
SO YOU DIDN'T KNOW. SIGH.
...I SEE...
YOU SAID... "DRAGGED IN".
BUT I WASN'T.
MR. OKAJIMA. I...
I...
I'M RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF ALL THIS. AND YOU...
ARE MY ENEMY.

Chapter 32: Fujiyama Gangsta Paradise - Pt. XI

...YUKIO-CHAN...
WHAT ARE YOU-
I GUESS SHE DIDN'T TELL YOU...
MR. OKAJIMA.
I...
I HAVE SUCCEEDED AS THE WASHIMINE-GUMI'S 14TH GRAND LEADER.
IN OTHER WORDS ...
RIGHT NOW, I AM...
...THE WASHIMINE-GUMI'S HIGHEST AUTHORITY.

...
...
YOU
...
DID YOU...!
DID YOU STEP INTO ALL THIS KNOWING WHAT KIND OF WORLD IT IS?!
YOU SAW WHAT HAPPENED! IT'S FILLED WITH MALICE AND NOT A SHRED OF REASON!
IT'S A WORLD FILLED WITH PEOPLE WHO BETRAY AND KILL EACH OTHER!
...
MR. OKAJIMA.
I WILL ASK YOU ONE MORE TIME.
WHY DID YOU COME HERE?

I TOLD YOU.
I COULDN'T STAND TO SEE YOU...
...DRAGGED INTO THIS.
THAT'S RIGHT.
IT WAS MY DECISION.
MR. OKAJIMA.
SHALL I START FROM THE BEGINNING ?
IT'S A LONG STORY...
MY FATHER AND THE KOSA KAI'S PREVIOUS CHAIRMAN WERE FRIENDS.
THEY KNEW EACH OTHER SINCE THE DAYS OF THE BLACK MARKETS AFTER THE WAR. THEY WERE SWORN FRIENDS THAT SURVIVED THROUGH IT ALL.
THE CHAIRMAN WAS VERY KIND TO ME. MY MOTHER WAS STILL ALIVE. IN THOSE DAYS EVERYTHING WAS...PEACEFUL.

THAT ALL CHANGED FIVE YEARS AGO.
WHAT WAS UNFORTUNATE FOR US WAS THAT MASAMI'S RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PREVIOUS CHAIRMAN AND MY FATHER WAS VERY VOLATILE.
THE CHAIRMAN PASSED AWAY AND HIS BROTHER, MASAMI KOSA, WAS NAMED THE NEW CHAIRMAN.
AND WHEN MY FATHER PASSED, WHATEVER RELATIONSHIP THEY HAD WAS SUDDENLY LOST AND HE BEGAN MAKING MOVES TO WEAKEN THE WASHIMINE'S FOUNDATION.
WITH THE KOSA KAI TECHNICALLY POSITIONED ABOVE THE WASHIMINE-GUMI, WE COULD NOT RESIST.
NOT ONLY WERE WE LOWERED IN THE SAKAZUKI* HIERARCHY, THEY ASSIGNED US THEIR REPRESENTATIVE AND THE KUMI WAS DRIVEN TO THE POINT WHERE IT WAS UNABLE TO MAINTAIN THE ORGANIZATION.
IT WAS MR. BANDO...
...WHO SAVED US.

*A FORMAL SAKE SHARING RITUAL, WHEREBY A YAKUZA *OYABUN* CREATES A BOND WITH LOWER RANKED *KOBUN*, THUS CREATING SMALLER GANG AFFILIATIONS WITHIN THE YAKUZA HIERARCHY.

BUT MR. BANDO...WENT AGAINST MY FATHER'S RULES. HE BEGAN MEDDLING IN DISHONORABLE BUSINESSES...
...TO KEEP THE KUMI AFLOAT, TO REPAY MY FATHER.
BUT...
THE REVIVAL WAS BRIEF. THEY BEGAN MAKING EVEN HARSHER DEMANDS.
IN A BIND, MR. BANDO EVENTUALLY DECIDED TO TAKE A GAMBLE.
DEMANDS?
THAT'S RIGHT. THEY INSISTED THAT...
...IF THE ISSUE OF THE SAKAZUKI WAS NOT RESOLVED, THEIR REPRESENTATIVE WOULD BE NAMED THE KUMICHO.
...
HOTEL MOSCOW.
YES.
AND THAT WAS...A CRITICAL MISTAKE.

AN ORGANIZATION PREPARED FOR BLOODSHED WITHOUT MODERATION OR RESTRAINT...
...DRIVEN BY THEIR VIOLENT TENDENCIES AND ANTI-SOCIAL NATURE FOR THE CONSTANT PURSUIT OF PROFITS.
BALALAIKA AND...
...HOTEL MOSCOW.
MR. BANDO COULD NOT SEE THEIR TRULY EVIL WAYS.
WITH ITS COLLAPSE, THEY BARED THEIR VICIOUS FANGS... RUSSIA'S GREAT DARKNESS.
THE DESPERATION AND DESIRES OF PEOPLE THAT WERE FORMED AND DECAYED IN A CLOSED OFF WORLD CALLED THE SOVIET UNION.

HE TRAVELED INTO THE WORLD OF DEATH TO FULFILL HIS RESPONSIBILITY TO MY FATHER.
YOU MUST HAVE BEEN THERE...
WHEN HE REALIZED IT, THE FINAL SURPRISE WAS A BULLET AIMED AT HIM.
I WONDER HOW DEEP HIS DESPAIR WAS.
I...
...BELIEVE HIS DEATH WAS A SUICIDE.

...IS YOU?
WHAT IF THE ONE PERSON WHO CAN SALVAGE ALL THAT...
...
WITH THE MOMENTUM OF THE KUMI GONE, ABANDONED BY THE PARENT ORGANIZATION, AND COMPELLED TO CONFRONT AN OVERWHELMING FORCE...

...DOES IT HAVE TO BE YOU?
...WHY...
THAT'S...
...HOW THEY PRESENTED IT TO US.
...IN THE RESTORATION OF THE SAKAZUKI.
THEY WILL NOT RECOGNIZE A NON-FAMILY SUCCESSOR...
IT MAY BE ABSURD, BUT THAT IS HOW PEOPLE LIKE US DO THINGS.
IT'S QUIBBLING OVER THE MOST INSIGNIFICANT DETAIL NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT.
BUT I FELT THE SAME WAY.
NOT EVEN YOU!!
NOBODY WANTED THIS! NOT MR. BANDO! NOT MR. GIN!
WHAT THE HELL KIND OF EXCUSE IS THAT?
...

EVERY-BODY DID WHATEVER THEY COULD...
...TO KEEP YOU AWAY FROM THE FEUD RIGHT?!
SO THAT YOU WOULDN'T BE IN THIS POSITION!!
BUT...
IF I HAD STOOD UP EARLIER...
...NONE OF THIS WOULD'VE HAPPENED.
NO.
IT'S THE KOSA KAI YOU SHOULD BLAMING.
...MAYBE IT IS THE KOSA KAI'S FAULT.
BUT OUR WORLD DOES NOT ALLOW US TO KILL IF IT MEANS PUTTING ASIDE HUMANITY AND NEGLECTING DUTY.
IF WE VIOLATE THAT, WE BECOME THE SAME AS BALALAIKA.

...
RESPONSIBILITY ONTO YOURSELF.
THAT'S WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE TO ME.
...IT MAKES NO SENSE.
YOU'RE FORCING...
...
DO YOU REMEMBER WHAT WE TALKED ABOUT AT THE CAFÉ?
IT WASN'T FORCED ON TO ME.
I CHOSE THIS.
TO DO WHAT I COULD FOR MY FATHER AND THE PEOPLE WHO RESPECT HIM.

NO!
IF YOU REFUSE TO SEE THAT...
...YOU'LL HAVE TO LIVE YOUR LIFE SHOULDER-ING...
YOU'RE...
IN THE TWILIGHT.
WHAT?
YOU WERE ...
...FORCED TO MAKE THAT CHOICE!!
...ALL THIS OTHER CRAP!
...!!
YOU'RE JUST STANDING THERE...
...IN THE TWILIGHT!
THAT'S HOW...
...YOU CAN SAY THAT!!

I HAD TO COME HERE!
I HAD TO TELL MYSELF I MADE THE CHOICE, OTHERWISE I COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT!
IF SOMEBODY'S LIFE, THEIR HONOR, THEIR FUTURE ALL DEPENDS ON ME...
WHAT ELSE CAN I DO BUT FIGHT FOR IT?!
...I WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO WITHSTAND IT!
IF I HADN'T CHOSEN TO BEAR IT ALL ON MY SHOULDERS...
EVEN TONIGHT...
...AND EVERYONE ELSE COULD BE SAVED.
...MR. GIN...
...IF IT MEANT...
...ACCEPT EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENS AROUND ME. ALL THE HORROR AND ALL THE UGLINESS...
BUT I DECIDED I WOULD...

Y-...
...YUKI-
MR. OKAJIMA.
YOU SAID EARLIER THAT THIS WAS AN UGLY WORLD.
THEN TELL ME THIS.
WHY DID YOU STEP INTO IT?
...
WHAT YOU TOLD ME AT THE CAFÉ- HONESTLY, I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND IT AT THE TIME.
BUT NOW I CAN SAY FOR SURE.
WHAT YOU WERE SEEKING WHEN YOU THREW YOURSELF INTO THE THAI UNDERWORLD.
PERHAPS YOU THOUGHT YOU WERE LOOKING FOR SOMETHING THAT DIDN'T EXIST IN JAPAN...NO... IN YOUR DAILY LIFE.
BUT...
IN THE END, YOU DIDN'T MAKE A CHOICE AT ALL.

YOU DIDN'T RETURN TO THE LIGHT OF DAY.
NOR DID YOU SINK INTO THE DEPTHS OF THE DARKNESS.
BECAUSE...
...ALL YOU DID WAS STAND THERE.
TAK
NO.
I-
YOU SAID...YOU WANTED TO HELP ME.
HELP ME SAVE THE WASHIMINE-GUMI FROM THIS PREDICAMENT.
MR. GIN, THE OTHER MEMBERS, EVERYBODY ...
...
YOU CAN'T, CAN YOU?
BECAUSE YOU...
...ACTUALLY DON'T WANT TO SAVE ME.
HELP THEM.
THEN HELP ME.

YOU...
...JUST DON'T WANT TO LOSE THE LIFE YOU THOUGHT YOU LEFT BEHIND.
...WOULD LOSE...
BECAUSE IF YOU LET ME DIE...
YOU...
...THE LAST PIECE OF THE MEMORIES...
...YOU LEFT HERE IN JAPAN.
YOU KEEP HOLDING ON, EVEN TO THINGS YOU THINK YOU'VE THROWN AWAY.
YOU STILL HAVE A SHRED OF ATTACHMENT TO THEM.
HOW CAN YOU PROTECT ANYBODY LIKE THAT?
MAKING A CHOICE...
...MEANS GIVING SOMETHING UP TO GAIN SOMETHING.

TELL ME!
HOW CAN YOU...
...SAVE ANYBODY LIKE THAT?!
SLUMP
I SHOULD HAVE BEEN IN THE SAME PLACE AS YOU.
NEITHER OF US WANTED TO LIVE A LIFE OF SUFFERING.
...YUKIO.
...
I WANTED ...
...A NORMAL LIFE.

SHF
DON'T COME NEAR ME.
...I KNOW.
IT'S SO FRUSTRATING, I CAN'T STAND IT.
BUT IT'S FRUSTRATING.
THAT'S WHY...
I HATE YOU.
SPLASH
SPSHH
YOU...
FUCKING... GLUB...
GHA...
BWHA!

SH
HEY?!
WHAT THE ...?!
WH-...
WHAT'RE YOU, THE DEVIL?!
OVE
G-GLUB!
SHA
6
FUCK...
YOU!
SHA
SPLSH
BLAGH.
SPRSH
GHAA!
SPL
OOSH
IT'S A BIT TOO EASY A DEATH FOR YOU.
BUT IT'LL DO.
VLUB
GLUB!
VLUB

SPLSH
SPLSH
GLUB!
GLUB
GLP
SHHA
SHA
BLOOP
WHP
ZW
WAIT
A SEC.
IP

CHOK
...THOSE WERE SOME AMAZING FIREWORKS YOU JUST DID.
YOU SLICED A BULLET, BABY, DIDN'T YA? A BULLET.
DO ME A FAVOR BIG GUY. LET ME SEE YOU DO THAT AGAIN.
...COME ON.
TOOO!
...DON'T BE SO SHORT TEMPERED.
I OWE YOU AND THE INTERPRETER.
AP

NO...
IF YOU'RE UNLUCKY, WE'LL HAVE A CHANCE TO GO AT IT.
NO REASON T'WASTE THAT BARGAINING CHIP.
IF YOU'RE LUCKY-
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
ヒラノボウル
3
TMP
TMP
TMP

...
I HOPE WE NEVER HAVE T'SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN.
THE COPS'LL BE HERE SOON.
MR. INTER-PRETER.
IF YOU DON'T LIKE TROUBLE, I SUGGEST YOU GET OUTTA HERE.
THEN WE CAN ALL HAVE SOME PEACE.
...YUKIO.
THANK YOU FOR EVERY-THING.
BUT...
LIKE MR. GIN SAID...
I HOPE...

WE NEVER...
...MEET AGAIN.
ROCK'S NOT BACK IN HIS ROOM YET. JESUS.
WHERE IS HE?
NO MATTER, HE WON'T BE NECESSARY FOR A WHILE.
ADVANCE THE PLAN TO NEUTRALIZE THE KOSA KAI TO THE SECOND PHASE. THE SURPRISE ATTACK ON THE WASHIMINE-GUMI WILL COMMENCE TOMORROW MORNING AT 07:50.
USE TWO SQUADS FOR THE WASHIMINE'S HEAD OFFICE, ALONG WITH THEIR HIDEOUTS WHERE WE HAVE CONFIRMATION OF STATUS...
...AND TAKE THEM OUT.

INSTRUCT THE JAPANESE ...
...IN THE MANNERS OF COMBAT.
COMRADE SERGEANT.
SIR!
THOROUGHLY NEUTRALIZE THE WASHIMINE-GUMI'S FORCE.
IN THE EVENT OF THIRD PARTY INTERFERENCE, SWIFTLY WITHDRAW. WE'LL WAIT FOR OUR NEXT OPPORTUNITY.

Chapter 33: Fujiyama Gangsta Paradise- Pt. XII

GOD-DAMMIT...
THEY BETTER NOT HAVE SCRATCHED ANYTHING.
IMP
DSK
DSK
DSHT
SHIT.
WHERE THE HELL ARE THOSE GUYS?!
THEY CLEARED OUTTA HERE.
IT'S NO GOOD.
WHERE?!
YEAH, THIS PLACE IS-
HUH?
THEY GOT KUDO?

PVIP
SPAK
FUCK! IT'S AN AMBUSH!!
WHO'S AT THE OFFICE! GET SOME GUYS OVER HERE!!
VIPVIP
KCHING
RUITO'S KOGAMI'S GETTIN' HIT.
GET OUT THERE AND SEE IF WE GOT ANYONE THAT CAN HELP 'EM OUT!
SHE
KUMP

KAC
HAK
BOO
KT
ZK
AT
ING

DOOO
...THE SAGAMIHARA OFFICE.
I CAN'T GET IN TOUCH WITH...
MR. TAGUCHI AND HIS MEN...ARE DEAD.
THE POLICE INFORMED US THEIR BODIES WERE FOUND AT RUITO'S LUMBER YARD.
...WHAT?
I HAVE TO GO TO THE STATION TOMORROW FOR QUESTIONING.
I WILL DO MY BEST TO PREVENT CHARGES AGAINST US FOR VIOLATING THE BOTAIHO**.
Akasaka
赤坂
出口800m
I ASKED TAGUCHI TO GO FIND HIDEOUTS, BUT I HAVEN'T HEARD FROM HIM SINCE LAST NIGHT...
THERE'S TWO, THREE OTHER PLACES I CAN'T MAKE CONTACT WITH EITHER, SODA*.

*TERM OF RESPECT FOR A TOP YAKUZA LEADER
**SHORTENED FORM OF *BORYOKUDAN TAISAKU HO*—ORGANIZED CRIME COUNTERMEASURES LAW, SIMILAR TO THE U.S. RICO ACT.

...AN ARMY.
IT IS MORE ACCURATE TO CALL THIS AN OPERATION INSTEAD OF A FEUD. THEY ARE EITHER EX-MILITARY OR A GROUP WITH SIMILAR SKILLS.
THEIR METHODS AREN'T LIKE THE MAFIA.
THEY'RE NOT LIKE THE YAKUZA. THEY'RE MORE LIKE...
INSTEAD OF FORCING THEIR WAY THROUGH, THEY ARE CAREFUL, CAUTIOUS, AND PRECISE.
...
...WE UNDER-ESTIMATED THEM.
WHAT?
I'M AFRAID I MAY HAVE TAKEN THEM TOO LIGHTLY...!
WHAT AN OVERSIGHT.
SO THAT'S WHY...
...IT WAS "CAPTAIN"...
WE CAN FIGHT THEM, MISS...
WE AIN'T DEAD YET.
CAPTAIN OR RECRUIT...
...WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE NOW?

TO PUT IT ANOTHER WAY...
...WE CAN'T BACK OUT NOW.
OF COURSE.
WE'RE STILL ALIVE. AND THAT'S ENOUGH.
VROOOO
SHF
SHF
I JUST GOT IN TOUCH WITH THE LADY.
SAID THE PLAN'S RUNNING A BIT BEHIND. MY HAT'S OFF TO 'EM.
LET'S GET BACK TO THE HOTEL BEFORE NINE. SHE SAID WE GOT ONE MORE JOB TO DO.
RRK
...
SURE.
WHAT'S UP ROCK?
RELAX MAN, THIS IS IT WITH THE WASHIMINE GUYS. WE CAN ALL GO OUR SEPARATE WAYS AFTER THIS.

WELL, YOU SEEM TO BE ENJOYING ALL THIS...
REVY.
HEHE...
I GUESS AFTER SPENDING SO MUCH TIME TOGETHER, NOW YOU CAN SEE RIGHT THROUGH ME.
IT'S THAT BIG GUY, ROCK.
HOW LUCKY AM I TO MEET SOMEBODY LIKE HIM?
CAN YOU BELIEVE IT, BABY?
THAT GUY SLICED A BULLET RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME.
NOW HOW COOL IS THAT?
I'M JUST ITCHING TO GO AT IT WITH HIM.
...WHAT'S THE POINT IN...
...RUSHING TO YOUR DEATH?

"RUSHING TO MY DEATH"?
YOU SAID I'M "RUSHING TO MY DEATH"?
THAT'S A HUGE MISUNDER-STANDING. YOU SEE ROCK...
WE'RE THE WALKING DEAD.
DUTCH, BALALAIKA, CHANG, AND ALL THE REST OF THEM...
EVERYBODY STUCK IN ROANAPUR ALL MIGHT AS WELL BE DEAD.
IF THERE'S ANY DIFFERENCE BETWEEN US AND THE GUYS GETTIN' EATEN BY BUGS UNDER THEIR TOMBSTONES...
...IT'S JUST ONE THING.
LIVIN' OR DYIN', IT'S NOT THAT BIG A DEAL.
WHAT WE SHOULD BE CONCERNED ABOUT IS...
WHETHER OR NOT WE'RE ALLOWED TO CRAWL TO OUR GRAVES.
DIFFERENCE?
THAT'S RIGHT, A DIFFERENCE.

YOU CAN FIGHT TILL THE END OF TIME.
IF YOU LET THAT ALL GO...
SOME GUYS WHO CLING TOO DEARLY TO THEIR LIVES LET THE FEAR GET TO THEM, THEY LOSE SIGHT OF THINGS.
POKE
POKE
DYING IN SOME DIRTY SWAMP...
IS YOUR IDEA OF COOL?
...
SO...
YOU'RE AWFULLY SNAPPY TODAY. WHAT GIVES?
...ROCK.
WHAT'S UP WITH YOU?
I'M NOT MAKING THIS A PLEASANT EVENING AM I?
...
I'M SORRY.

WE GOT A JOB COMING UP. ONCE YOU'RE BUSY AGAIN YOU'LL FORGET WHATEVER'S BOTHERING YOU.
...
HEY MAN, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
WHO TH' FUCK D'YOU THINK YOU ARE YOU LITTLE...
SLAM!
COOL IT, MOROZUMI!
WASN'T THAT THE CONDITION YOU PRESENTED?
I BELIEVE YOU REACHED AN AGREEMENT WITH THE MEDIATION COUNCIL UNDER THIS CONDITION AS WELL.
SUCCESSION BY BLOOD KIN?
LISTEN MISSY.
YOU SHOULDN'T KID AROUND WITH ADULTS.
YOU SUCCEEDIN' YOUR OLD MAN? WHO SAID YA COULD?

EVEN IF THAT'S THE CASE...
HOW DO YOU PLAN ON CLEANING UP THE MESS BROUGHT ON BY THE RUSSIANS?
AS YOU'VE POINTED OUT, THAT WAS ALL DONE BY OUR PREVIOUS *WAKAGASHIRA**, BANDO. IN OTHER WORDS, IT WAS DUE TO OUR NEGLIGENCE.
THE WASHIMINE WILL RALLY EVERY MAN WE HAVE TO DRIVE THE RUSSIANS OUT.
HMPH!
DON'T KID YOURSELF LITTLE GIRL. WHAT I WANNA KNOW IS...
HOW'RE YOU GONNA CLEAN UP THE *WHOLE* FUCKIN' MESS?
IT'S NOT JUST US KOSA. THE OTHER *OYABUN* ON THE MEDIATION COUNCIL WON'T AGREE TO IT.
WE NEED T'KNOW HOW YOU'RE GONNA HANDLE THIS BEFORE WE CAN START TALKING ABOUT A *SAKAZUKI*!

*UNDERBOSS OF A YAKUZA FAMILY

...WITH ALL DUE RESPECT ...
I KNOW YOU HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN WHAT CAUSED YOUR *WAKAGASHIRA'S* DESPERATE ACT OF SEEKING COOPERATION WITH THEM.
OR HAVE YOU?

FINE.
WE WILL MAKE A FORMAL APOLOGY IN FRONT OF THE MEDIATION COUNCIL AT A LATER DATE.
POFF
HOW SHOULD I KNOW?
WE SENT YOU A REP SO WE COULD HELP SAVE A FELLOW BROTHER. WHO WAS IT THAT TURNED THAT DOWN?
SOUNDS TO ME LIKE YOU'RE REPAYING OUR KINDNESS WITH RESENTMENT.
YOU LITTLE CUNT!
IKIA
YOU THINK YOU CAN SIDESTEP US?!
HUH, YOU LITTLE BITCH?!
SLAP

THE OUTCOME ...
...IS UP TO THE MEDIATION COUNCIL.
KLAK
WE HAVE ENOUGH TO SATISFY THEM.
YOU...
... BITCH ...
YOU LOOKIN' T'GET CRUSHED THAT BADLY, EH?
BOTH OF US...
...WILL BE STANDING ON THE THRESHOLD OF DEATH.
WE ARE IN THE MIDST OF A WAR FOR OUR LIVES.
WE WILL ATONE FOR WHAT WE HAVE DONE WITH BLOODSHED.

WELL THEN.
WE MUST BE GOING.
WHAT MORE COULD YOU WANT FROM US?
MOROZUMI.
IT'S ALL RIGHT. LET 'EM BE.
BOSS?!
K-KLNK
...!
JUST WATCH, ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS WAIT. WHAT'D YOU THINK...
THEY SAID THEY WANTED TO DO IT. SO LET THEM.
...TOMORROW'S MEETING IS FOR?
V-ROOOOM
空
B·F
SKRA

ANOTHER GATHERING WITH THE JAPANESE.
ONCE WE TAKE CARE OF THIS YOU GET TO GO BACK TO THAILAND.
THERE'S ALWAYS SOMETHING, HUH?
NO PROBLEM, SISTER.
WE GET TO HANG OUT A BIT LONGER SO IT'S ACTUALLY KINDA GOOD FOR US.
SO WHAT'S THE NEXT JOB?
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING.
I HAD TO STOP BY THE EMBASSY.
... GATHERING ?
WHAT ABOUT THE WASHIMINE ...?
OUR TIES WITH THE WASHIMINE-GUMI ARE IN THE WASTEBASKET.
IT'S MORE CONSTRUCTIVE TALKING TO A SEPTIC TANK THAN GOING AROUND WITH THEM AGAIN.
THIS MEETING IS WITH...

...THE KOSA KAI.
I WAS THINKING IT WAS STILL TOO EARLY TO CALL IT QUITS. BUT...
BECAUSE YOU...
...ACTUALLY DON'T WANT TO SAVE ME.
I FIGURED IF THEIR OFFER WASN'T TOO ABSURD I'D GO ALONG WITH IT.
IF EVERYTHING GOES WELL, THERE'LL BE LESS TO WORRY ABOUT SO...
YOU JUST DON'T WANT TO LOSE THE LIFE YOU THOUGHT YOU LEFT BEHIND.
HEY? ROCK?
YOU'RE...
...STANDING STILL...
...IN THE TWILIGHT.

...MS. BALALAIKA.
THERE'S NO REASON FOR YOU TO JOIN FORCES WITH THE KOSA KAI.
INSTEAD OF NEUTRALIZING THE WASHIMINE-GUMI...
...YOU SHOULD BE TAKING THE KOSA KAI DOWN.
ROCK?!
HEY?!
THE WASHIMINE-GUMI IS ALREADY WEAKENED. THEY'RE NO LONGER A THREAT TO HOTEL MOSCOW, RIGHT?

BESIDES, THE WASHIMINE ARE...
ROCK!
DON'T CONFUSE YOURSELF, ROCK.
YOU ARE MY INTERPRETER. NOT A FELLOW SOLDIER, NOT A COMRADE, NOT A MEMBER OF "MOSCOW"...
YOU REALIZE THIS DON'T YOU?

...WASHIMINE'S NEW KUMICHO IS STILL A CHILD.
HEY!
HEY! KNOCK IT OFF!
I KNOW YOU HAVE A SENSE OF JUSTICE TOO!
FLICK
THAT'S ENOUGH, ROCK.
YOU'RE BECOMING A PROBLEM.
AB
AH
BTH
WP!

LET'S STAY COOL, SISTER.
YOU DON'T WANT A BLOODY VALENTINE DOWN HERE DO YOU?
STOP BARKING, REVY.
ROCK.
LOOK AT ME.

Chapter 34: Fujiyama Gangsta Paradise - Pt. XIII

Chapter 34: Fujiyama Gangsta Paradise - Pt. XIII

THIS JUSTICE YOU SPEAK OF SMELLS TOO.
IT REEKS LIKE A PUDDLE OF BLOOD, DON'T YOU THINK?

I JUST DIDN'T EXPECT SUCH WORDS TO COME OUT OF YOUR MOUTH.
I'M GIDDY, ACTUALLY.
DON'T GIVE ME THAT LOOK.
I'M NOT CONDEMN-ING YOU.
BALALAIKA ...
MY TRIGGER FINGERS ARE GETTIN' TENSE.
PUT THAT DOWN IF YOU'VE MADE YOUR POINT.
OUR LIVES WEIGH VERY LITTLE.
THEY'RE LIKE CANDY WRAPPERS. YOURS-AND HIS, TOO.
I'LL TELL YOU STRAIGHT.
JUST PUT THE GUN DOWN, SIS.

I'LL TELL YOU THIS TWO-HAND.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON, BUT...
...SHUT UP.
I KNOW. I KNOW THAT, SIS.
PLEASE, JUST SHUT UP. I CAN'T KEEP MY FINGERS FROM SQUEEZING FOR MUCH LONGER.
...DON'T GO WISHING FOR A LIFE LIKE HIS.
...BALALAIKA.
YOUR VICTORY IS ALMOST CERTAIN AND YOU HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE.
ISN'T THAT ENOUGH?

...
NO.
THERE ARE TWO THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND WHEN BEGGING FOR YOUR LIFE.
ONE IS, ENTERTAIN THE PERSON WHOSE HANDS YOUR LIFE IS IN.
THE OTHER IS, MAKE A CASE THAT WOULD SATISFY THEM.
YOU'VE DONE NEITHER.
NOW, DANCE.
WHY SHOULD I BE OBLIGATED TO SPARE THEM?
...
YOU'VE GOT ONE THING WRONG.
I'M NOT ASKING YOU TO DO THIS OUT OF OBLIGATION, OR JUSTICE. IT'S ONLY FOR ONE REASON...
IT'S MY HOBBY.

YOUR HOBBY?
THAT'S RIGHT. MY HOBBY.
THE SAME AS YOU.
HA...
HA...
HA...
HA HA HA HA HA!
HA HA HA HA HA!
AHA HA HA!
HA HA HA HA!
HA HA HA HA!

WI
S
HO
GLARE
CHOK!
I THINK IT WOULD BE WISE IF YOU DIDN'T RISK YOUR LIFE OVER SUCH TRIVIAL MATTERS IN THE FUTURE.
ROCK...
WE'RE GOING TO BE BUSY AGAIN STARTING TOMORROW.
YA
THE ONLY REASON WE'RE STILL BREATHIN'...
IS BECAUSE OF GOD'S BLESSING AND FOR SOME STRANGE REASON, THAT PSYCHOTIC COAT-WEARIN' WAR-FREAK FELT LIKE HOLSTERING HER GUN.
ROCK...
...BABY...YOU SHITHEAD!

OVER HERE, I'M YOUR GUN.
I KNOW I COULD PROTECT YOU EVEN THROUGH TARAWA OR THE ALAMO.
BUT...
THERE'S NO WAY OF PROTECTING SOMEBODY WHO JUST CAN'T WAIT TO DIE, YOU DUMB FUCK.
...YOU'RE ANGRY?
IT'S BEYOND ANGER. I'M FURIOUS.
I'D'A POPPED OFF A FEW ROUNDS IF IT WASN'T YOU.
REVY, I NEED A FAVOR.
WILL YOU COME WITH ME...
BACK TO MY TOWN.

IT'S A TAKAMACHI.
KAMINO'S RUNNING THIS AREA.
I HAVEN'T CHECKED IN ON HIM SINCE THE FEUD STARTED...
I DON'T THINK WE CAN GO UNTIL THINGS SETTLE DOWN.
IT'S A CRYIN' SHAME.
...
GIN-SAN!
LET'S STOP FOR A MOMENT.
CHK
MISS!
HOLD ON A MOMENT, MISS! PLEASE!
MISS!

PLEASE, MISS.
IF ANYTHING HAPPENED TO YOU...
I'M SORRY, GIN-SAN.
I HAVEN'T BEEN TO A *TAKAMACHI* IN A WHILE, SO I GOT EXCITED.
IT HASN'T EVEN BEEN A MONTH...
BUT IT FEELS LIKE IT WAS SO LONG AGO.
GIN-SAN...
WHEN IT'S ALL OVER, YOU'LL PUT UP ANOTHER STAND WON'T YOU?
...
MISS.
I APOLOGIZE IF THIS SOUNDS HARSH...

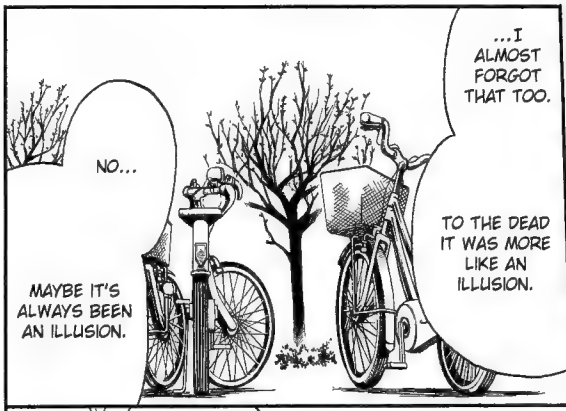
A TOTAL OF FOUR OFFICES WERE RAIDED IN THE LAST THREE DAYS.
EIGHT DEAD, TWENTY IN THE HOSPITAL.
THE WASHIMINE NOW NUMBERS ABOUT A THIRD OF WHAT WE WERE BEFORE THE FEUD STARTED.
I'M GRATEFUL NONE OF 'EM HAVE LEFT, BUT–
I'VE...
...BEEN THINKING RECENTLY.
I WISH THE *TAKAMACHI* WOULD GO ON FOREVER.

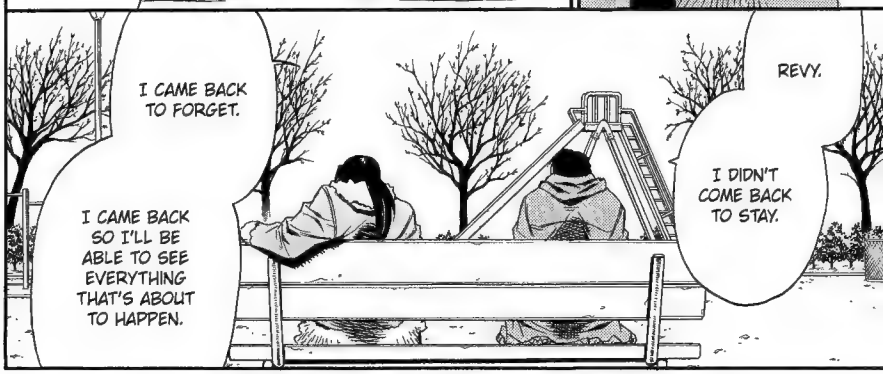
THE STANDS ARE THERE. YOU'RE THERE...
I THINK THAT WOULD BE SO MUCH FUN.
...I'M SORRY. I KNOW NOW'S NOT THE TIME TO BE THINKING LIKE THIS.
...ROCK.
HMM?

...BALALAIKA DIDN'T HAVE TO TELL ME.
FILTERS
THIS IS A NICE PLACE. THAT'S WHY...
...I GOT CONFUSED.
I'VE BEEN LIVING IN PLACES WHERE THE AIR'S ALWAYS DIRTY.
I'M NOT CUT OUT TO LIVE ANYWHERE ELSE. I ALMOST FORGOT THAT.
BALALAIKA WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO TOOK THAT TO HEART.
ALL SHE'S EVER SEEN ARE WARS.

GO.
AND DON'T LOOK BACK.
YOU'RE ABOUT TO WAKE UP FROM YOUR NIGHTMARE.
...REVY.
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN? I'M ALREADY DEAD.
THE MAN I WAS DIED THE DAY I MET YOU.

IF ROANAPUR IS THE TOWN WHERE THE DEAD WALK...
...THIS IS WHERE THE LIVING LIVE.
IT WAS SUCH A FAMILIAR SIGHT...


...I ALMOST FORGOT THAT TOO.
TO THE DEAD IT WAS MORE LIKE AN ILLUSION.
NO...
MAYBE IT'S ALWAYS BEEN AN ILLUSION.


REVY.
I DIDN'T COME BACK TO STAY.
I CAME BACK TO FORGET.
I CAME BACK SO I'LL BE ABLE TO SEE EVERYTHING THAT'S ABOUT TO HAPPEN.

I WAS DONE WITH REGRET A YEAR AGO.
...YOU WON'T FORGET.
YOU'LL JUST REGRET IT.
BUT NOW...
I FEEL LIKE ONE THING'S BEEN DECIDED.
THE ONLY THING I WAS MISSING WAS RESOLVE.
...
OH YEAH...
YEAH, YEAH!
KNOCK DOWN THE CANS AGAIN!
HEY...
DO THAT THING AGAIN!
HEY?!
IT'S THAT GIRL!
WELL ROCK?
REALLY?!

PUT ON A SHOW FOR THEM, REVY.
ALL RIGHT...
...IT LOOKS REAL...
9mm SWORD CUTLASS
...
WHAT KINDA GUN IS THAT?
THIS HERE'S A BERETTA M92 CUSTOM, THE PRAIYACHAT SWORD CUTLASS SPECIAL.
NOW KEEP YOUR EYES ON THOSE CANS, KIDDIES.
WATCH 'EM CLOSE, OKAY?

KSH
BLA
BLA
BLA
9mm Stun Rounds

KC
HK
TC
H
YOUR MOMMY'S WAITIN' FOR YA.
YOU KIDS GET YOUR ASSES BACK HOME.

...
...WE HAVE A LITTLE OVER 30 MEN LEFT.
EVEN IF WE WERE TO RAID KOSA'S OFFICE, WE BARELY HAVE ENOUGH MEN.
WE'VE MANAGED TO STAY EVEN IN THIS WAR UP TO NOW, BUT...
...IT'S THE RUSSIANS' ATTACKS THAT'VE HIT US HARD.

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...
AS LONG AS THE WASHIMINE HAS ITS EMBLEM UP, WE CAN'T ACCEPT DEFEAT.
BUT DRAGGING THE REMAINING MEN DOWN ISN'T RIGHT EITHER.
I BELIEVE WE SHOULD GAUGE HOW THE MEN FEEL ONE MORE TIME AND THOSE WHO WANT TO LEAVE, CAN LEAVE, AND THOSE WHO WANT TO STAY, CAN STAY.

...IF WE HAVE EVEN ONE WHO WOULD WALK WITH US TO OUR DEATHS...
WE COULD AT LEAST...
...TAKE DOWN BALALAIKA AND THAT WOULD BE SATISFACTORY.
HEY!
ISHIGURO!
HUH? SIR?
DON'T GIMME NO "HUH." DID YOU FIND OUT ABOUT THE THREE THAT JUST WENT IN? THE TWO FOREIGNERS AND THE ONE JAPANESE GUY?
I'M HAVING THEM RUN THROUGH ICPO'S DATABASE, BUT WE STILL HAVEN'T...
WHAT ABOUT THIS INTERNATIONAL LIAISON THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO SEND OVER?
SOME GUY CALLED KONO'S SUPPOSED TO BE HERE.
THAT WOMAN IS SOMEHOW INVOLVED IN THE FEUD BETWEEN THE WASHIMINE AND KOSA.
...AND MAYBE IN THE SHOOTING AT THE BOWLING ALLEY IN ADACHI-KU.

I SPOKE TO THE CHIEF ABOUT A JOINT INVESTIGATION, BUT THEY WON'T MOVE. AT ALL.
LISTEN, JUST KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN.

Отлично, договорились.
(VERY WELL. GET TO IT.)
Есть!
(SIR!)
... Да, кстати.
Подайте машину —
(...YES, THE CAR...)
Да.
(YES.)
THANK YOU, ROCK.
LOOKS LIKE THIS WILL ALL BE OVER SOON.
I'M INTERESTED TO SEE HOW THE KOSA'S *KUMICHO* IS GOING TO PERSUADE THE MEDIATION COUNCIL, BUT...
FLIK
...MY JOB ENDS HERE. MY REPLACEMENT FROM "MOSCOW" WILL HANDLE THE REST.
SNAP!
IT'S UNFORTUNATE I WON'T GET TO SEE HOW IT ALL ENDS. VERY UNFORTUNATE.

...
WHAT IS IT?
WHAT?
IT LOOKED LIKE YOU WANTED TO SAY SOMETHING JUST NOW.
OR WAS I MISTAKEN?
...BALALAIKA.
ROCK?
IS THIS ABOUT THE OTHER NIGHT?

I'VE ALREADY SPARED YOUR LIFE.
DO YOU NOW WISH...
...FOR SOMETHING MORE?
...
IF I'M ALLOWED.
I COULD AT LEAST HEAR YOU OUT.
FIRST...
ALLOW ME TO SAY ONE THING.
IF THIS IS HOW IT'S ALL GOING TO BE SETTLED...
I WANT YOU TO UTTERLY CRUSH THE WASHIMINE-GUMI.
TO THE POINT WHERE...
...IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR THEM TO RECOVER.

ONLY THAT...
...WILL SET HER FREE.
I...
SEE.
...
AH...
I SEE.
I SEE.
FOR WASHIMINE'S DAUGHTER TO RETURN TO A NORMAL LIFE UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES ...
...IT WOULD BE IN EXCHANGE FOR EVERYTHING THAT'S BEEN LEFT TO HER.
INDEED.

YOU'LL MAKE A GOOD...
...VILLAIN.
YOU'VE MADE THE RIGHT DECISION.
YOU'RE A BAD MAN, ROCK.
To

CAPTAIN!
THEY'RE THROUGH WITH THEIR DISCUSSION. THEY'D LIKE YOU TO COME BACK INSIDE.
ALL RIGHT.
WHAT'S THE MATTER ROCK? COME ON.
THE JOB'S NOT OVER YET.
PLEASE FORGIVE MY DELAY.
I'M CERTAIN YOU MUST BE EXHAUSTED FROM THESE LONG DISCUSSIONS.
NO PLEASE. NOW WE SEE THE LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL.
LET'S JUST SAY EVERYTHING THAT'S HAPPENED IS NOW WATER UNDER THE BRIDGE.

MR. KOSA...
WE MUST MAKE PLANS FOR WHO WILL SUCCEED US IN THE FUTURE.
...MM?
...?
IF CERTAIN CONTINGENCIES SHOULD OCCUR IN OUR ABSENCE, IT WILL BE DIFFICULT FOR US TO RESPOND PROPERLY.
I WISH TO KNOW YOUR STATE OF READINESS CONCERNING FIREARMS. IS IT ADEQUATE?
WOULD YOU OBLIGE ME?
WE'VE EVEN BOUGHT MACHINE GUNS FROM GUYS IN HAWAII.
...WELL, YEAH.
I CAN'T SAY THIS TOO LOUD, BUT WE GOT WAY MORE GUNS THAN MOST OTHER CREWS.

I'D LIKE TO SEE THE AMMUNITION AS WELL.
CHK
WHAKK
I SEE.
CHK
KCHK
QUITE THE COMPETENT BODYGUARD YOU HAVE. DO YOU HAVE ANY BACKUP MEANS OF PROTECTION?

...
MOROZUMI.
WE'VE COME THIS FAR, THERE'S NOTHIN' TO GAIN BY MAKIN' A BANG HERE.
BOSS...
IT'LL ONLY COMPLICATE THINGS. GIVE IT TO HER.
...
WHAT IS THIS?
ABSOLUTELY ATROCIOUS...

TAKE A LOOK SERGEANT. ATROCIOUS ISN'T IT?
KLIK
I DOUBT IF EVEN LOWLIFE GUTTER PUNKS WOULD USE TRASH LIKE THIS.
SCHK
ABSOLUTELY AWFUL. WHAT A HIDEOUS GUN.
SCHK
KCHK
HAVE YOU EVER STOPPED TO CONSIDER...
...WHAT IT WOULD FEEL LIKE TO BE SHOT WITH A GUN LIKE THIS?

K-K
K
WELL THAT DOES IT.
KA
CHK
I CAN'T WORK WITH SCUM WHO SHAMELESSLY SPORT SUCH SHODDY HARDWARE.

BANG
KRAK
KRAK
KRAK
MR. YASUZAWA! GUNSHOTS!!
GO! EVERYONE INSIDE!!
OPEN THIS DOOR!
THIS IS THE POLICE!
OPEN UP!

FW
O
O
HMM...
THIS GUN ACTUALLY WASN'T TOO BAD.
CHKK
SERGEANT, HOW MUCH TIME DO WE HAVE?
THE BIG BOSS HIMSELF SAID, "START A WAR. BURN IT ALL DOWN."
I HAVE DUTIFULLY CARRIED OUT HIS ORDERS.
SHOULDN'T BE A PROBLEM CAPTAIN.
BUT HOW DO WE EXPLAIN THIS TO PYOTR?

ROCK.
THIS IS YOURS.
I DON'T LIKE GUNS AND...
...I DON'T LIKE CARRYING AROUND THINGS I'M NOT USED TO HAVING.
WOULD YOU LIKE TO TAKE IT AS A SOUVENIR?
...BUT...
CHK
I WON'T FORGET...
THAT I'VE PULLED THIS TRIGGER.
SO I'LL...
...RETURN THIS TO YOU.

KK
RASH
WHAP
SERGEANT!
LEAVE YOUR WEAPONS BEHIND.
THMP
WE'RE HEADING BACK TO BASE!
WHAM
I AM YASUZAWA FROM THE ORGANIZED CRIME CONTROL SECTION!!
NOBODY MOVE!
KMP
KMP

WHOOO
WE'D LIKE TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT THE GUNSHOTS.
IF YOU'D COME WITH US TO THE STATION!
THIS IS ISHIGURO OF THE SECURITY SECTION ASSIGNED TO THIS CASE.
Тютелька в тютельку, капитан.
(WE ARE RIGHT ON TIME CAPTAIN.)
Как со временем?
(THE TIME?)
Понятно.
(GOOD.)
За мной подъедут.
(OUR RIDE IS COMING.)
Освободите дорогу, доблестная милиция.
(MAKE WAY OFFICERS.)
AA

FW
ROCK.
TELL THE WASHIMINE GIRL...
AS OF THIS MOMENT, HOTEL MOSCOW IS DECLARING A UNILATERAL CEASEFIRE.
AS LONG AS SHE DOESN'T SHOW HERSELF IN FRONT OF US, WE WILL GUARANTEE HER LIFE.
TELL HER TO PACK HER THINGS AND LEAVE TOWN BEFORE SUNDOWN.

Chapter 36: Fujiyama Gangsta Paradise – Pt. XV

VROOOOM
KRRR

Замолчите!
(SILENCE!)
Мы с вами еще не закончили.
(YOUR BUSINESS IS WITH ME.)
Не отвлекайтесь на мелкую на шестерку.
(DON'T BOTHER WITH THE LITTLE FISH.)
SK
RK
MISS VLADILENA.
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING MA'AM.
THE AMBASSADOR IS WAITING FOR YOU IN MAMIANA-CHO.

NO, MR. YASUZAWA!
IT'S A DIPLOMATIC PLATE!
GRAB
I'M NOT THROUGH WITH YOU!
外-7908
FWP
TAK
4
Счастливо оставаться, товарищи милиционеры!
(GOOD DAY TO YOU MR. MILITSIYA.)
Если у вас возникнут вопросы, обращайтесь к первому секретарю Посольства Российской Федерации, Валижинову В.Н.
(IF THERE'S ANYTHING MORE I CAN DO FOR YOU, PLEASE CONTACT THE CIS EMBASSY OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, FIRST SECRETARY V.N. VALIZINOV.)
THUNK
Как всегда, приятно было пообщаться.
(IT'S BEEN A PLEASURE, AS ALWAYS.)

VW
OOO
WHO'RE YOU?
SHOOT
...SHIT!
TOO LATE!
I'M KONO FROM THE INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS SECTION.
WHY DIDN'T YOU ARREST THEM WHEN YOU HEARD THE SHOTS?!
THE SHOTS WERE FIRED INSIDE-WE NEEDED THEM TO GIVE UP CUSTODY VOLUNTARILY.
SO WHO THE HELL IS SHE? DID YOU FIND OUT?
FWOOO
SHE'S A REAL BIG SHOT.
SHE'S WITH A GROUP CALLED "HOTEL MOSCOW." THEY'RE BASED IN MOSCOW AND HAVE STRONG FOOTHOLDS IN CHECHNYA AND NEW YORK.
THEY CALL HER "BALALAIKA" AND SHE'S AN OFFICER OF HOTEL MOSCOW !!

WE'RE HEADIN' STRAIGHT FOR THE MARYA ZALESKA!
GIMME DIRECTIONS!
VROOOO

IT'LL BE NO VISITORS ALLOWED! YOU GET ME, DUMBASS?!
RR
OOO
IN 30 MINUTES, THE WHOLE PLACE IS GONNA BE SEALED OFF!
IT'LL BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR ANYONE WITHOUT A BADGE TO GO IN OR COME OUT!
I KNOW!
THAT'S WHY I NEED YOU TO DO THIS!
I WANT TO CLEAN THIS UP BEFORE...
...WE'RE NOT ALLOWED BACK IN!
GIN-SAN.
THIS WILL PUT AN END TO EVERY-THING.
IT ALL MAKES SENSE AND THERE IS NOTHING DISHONORABLE ABOUT IT.

IT'S JUST THAT...
WHEN I THINK I WON'T EVER HEAR THE BUSTLING OF THE *TAKAMACHI* ANYMORE...
IT MAKES ME A LITTLE SAD.
...MISS...!
...I KNOW...
I *KNOW* IT ALL MAKES SENSE...!
CALL ME A CHEATER OR COWARD, I DON'T CARE!
I JUST CAN'T SAY YES TO THIS...!

MISS, YOU'VE DONE ALL YOU COULD!
NOT MANY MEN COULD'VE DONE WHAT YOU DID!
YOU'VE DONE ENOUGH!
LEAVE THE REST TO US. LET US CARRY OUT OUR OBLIGATION...
GIN-SAN...
I'VE BEEN WITH YOU ALWAYS.
SO...

SO...
I'LL CONTINUE TO...
BE WITH YOU.
SHP

I WONDER IF THEY'LL COME.
THEY PICKED THIS PLACE.
HE SAID SHE WANTED TO SPEAK DIRECTLY TO ME AS THE SODAI AND HUNG UP.
奉
納
I WOULD THINK IT'S A TRAP.
CHF
CHF
THEY SHOW THEIR STUPID FACES HERE AND...
BANG.
BANG, BANG.
BANG.
...
NO.
...THEY'RE HERE.
TMP

SH-
CHAK
HY
O
YUKIO.
AS I SAID OVER THE PHONE.
HOTEL MOSCOW HAS DECLARED A CEASE FIRE.
O
AS LONG AS YOU STAY OUT OF THEIR WAY...
YOU'RE SAFE.
BALALAIKA GAVE HER WORD.
O

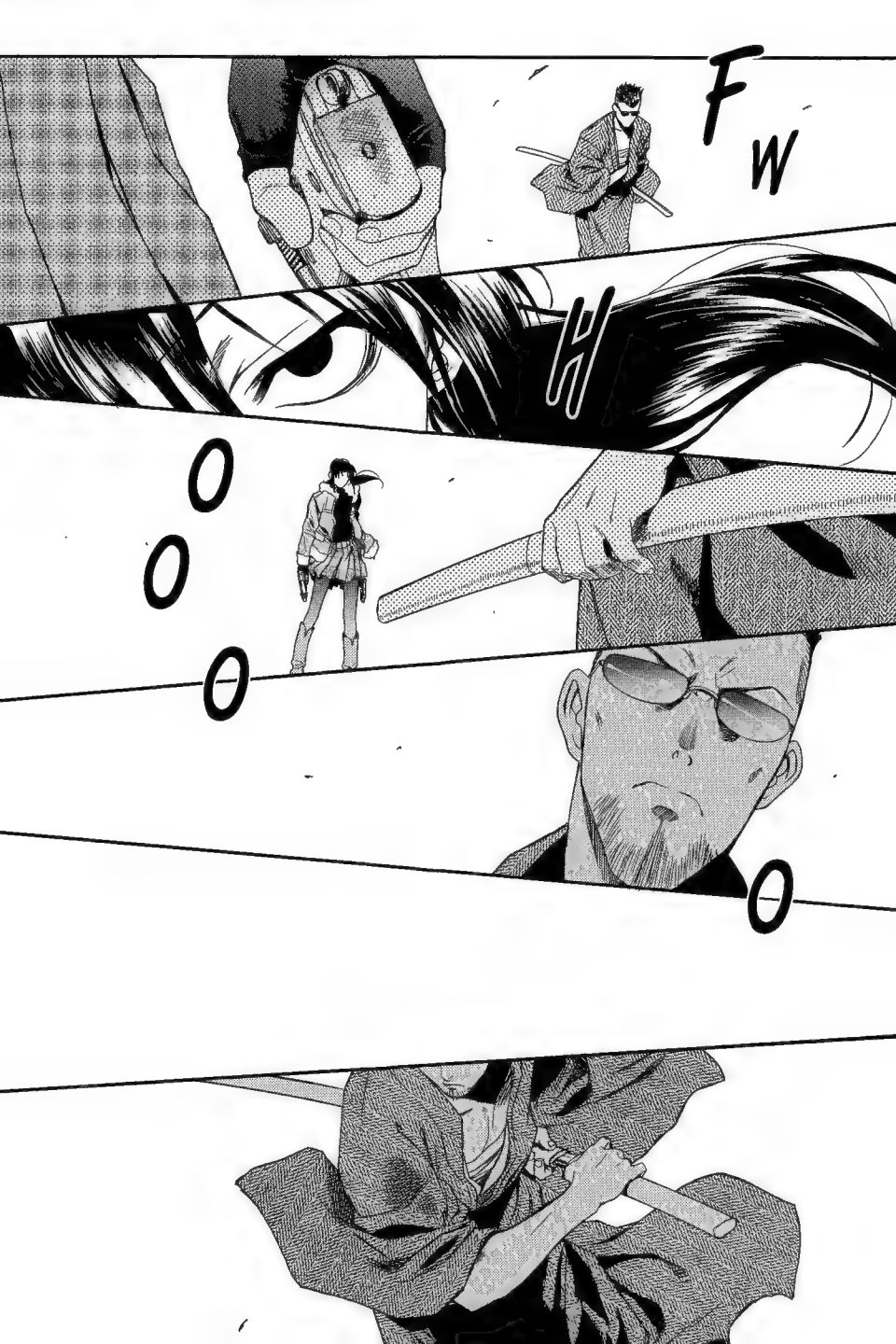
...ANY KIND OF GUARANTEE?
...
HOW IS THAT...
...THE WASHIMINE-GUMI IS EXHAUSTED TO THE POINT WHERE WE CAN NO LONGER MAINTAIN OURSELVES AS AN ORGANIZATION.
BUT...
THE WASHIMINE STILL HAS ITS EMBLEM, ITS SIGN. IT HAS NOT FALLEN TO THE GROUND YET.
BREAKING EVERY PROMISE, BETRAYING, HURTING, SPITTING ON HONOR.
AND YOU'RE ASKING ME TO TRUST SOMEBODY LIKE THAT?

I UNDERSTAND THE KOSA KAI HAS DISINTEGRATED FROM INTERNAL CONFLICT.
THE CAUSE OF THAT IS NOW IN THE PAST. BUT...
...THE PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATH OF OUR WAKAGASHIRA, TSUGIO BANDO, IS STILL ALIVE.
BALALAIKA, THE LEADER OF THEIR ORGANIZATION.
OUR MORTAL ENEMY HOTEL MOSCOW.
TO LIVE WITH CHIVALRY, WITH HONOR...
...AND DUTY IS OUR PRIDE.
ONLY WHEN SHE IS DEAD...
...WILL WE HAVE CLOSURE.
...
THERE'S NOTHING THAT OBLIGATES YOU.
IT'S ALL RHETORIC!!

WHY?
I AM NOT LIKE YOU.
...
THAT IS WHAT BALALAIKA WOULD SAY.
BUT HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN?
*LITERALLY, "THOSE WHO WALK THE EXTREME PATH", GANGSTERS
I HAVE ALWAYS LIVED IN THE NIGHT.
ONLY THOSE AROUND ME NUDGED ME UNDER THE SUN.
THAT IS ALL, MR. OKAJIMA.
WHY?
WE ARE GOKUDO*.
THK
FORGET IT.
I TOLD YOU, ROCK.
SHE'S ALREADY...
...ONE OF THE WALKING DEAD.
KG HK

THAT IS ALL I HAVE TO SAY, MR. OKAJIMA.
NOW IF YOU WOULD PLEASE STEP ASIDE.
IF YOU INSIST ON GETTING IN THE WAY...
WE WILL SLASH OUR WAY THROUGH.
I REFUSE.
I CAN'T...
...LET YOU DIE!

GIN-SAN.
PLEASE PROCEED.
IS THAT SO.
VERY WELL.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Chapter 37: Fujiyama Gangsta Paradise - Pt. XVI

WH
SK

KI
SH
BLAM
BLA
BLA
PH

KNNG
...
YOU...!

SHING
LAK
SHARP

...
...I SHOULDN'T HAVE...
...BROUGHT THE MISS...
SHH
CH K
AFTER ALL THAT'S SAID AND DONE...
...THIS IS WHO WE ARE. SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT WITH US.
THIS AIN'T A PLACE...WHERE FOLKS THAT AREN'T LIKE US SHOULD BE...
DON'T YOU THINK SO, LADY...?!

DO OO
YUKIO.
KA KA
I....
I HAD THE WRONG IDEA.
THERE ARE WAYS FOR YOU NOT TO BECOME LIKE BALALAIKA. I THOUGHT...
...YOU WOULD CHOOSE THAT PATH.
SH

YOU'RE NOT HERE...
...FOR THE KUMI.

YOU SHOULD HAVE...
...ESCAPED WITH MR. GIN.

THAT'S WHY...
...I CAN SEE CERTAIN THINGS.
YOU...
LIKE YOU SAID, I'M...
...STANDING IN THE TWILIGHT.
...HAVEN'T THROWN THE DICE.
YOU ONLY THINK YOU DID.

KCHNK
...
I BELIEVE ...
...WE ARE FIGHTING...
...TO SURVIVE!
FWP!

YOU'LL BE...
...AT THE *TAKAMACHI* AGAIN, WON'T YOU?
GIN-SAN...

YOU JUST THOUGHT ABOUT...
...LIVING THROUGH THIS, DIDN'T YOU?
IT'S TOO LATE.
TOO LATE.
KTI
NN
ZHP
THE ONLY REWARD FOR PEOPLE LIKE US...
IS A SHALLOW GRAVE.
THAT'S ALL.
AK
KC

DRIP
DRIP
DRIP
DRIP
...
...I BLEW IT.
WHOOM

CMP
TMP
REVY.
UGH...
...I'M ALL RIGHT, I'M ALL RIGHT...
ROCK...
THANKS MAN... WHATEVER IT WAS THAT...
...DREW THOSE WORDS OUT OF HER... WAS THE REAL BULLET... IF IT WEREN'T FOR THAT, I'D BE THE ONE ROLLING IN A-
GRAB
DON'T TALK.
THIS IS GONNA HURT A LITTLE.

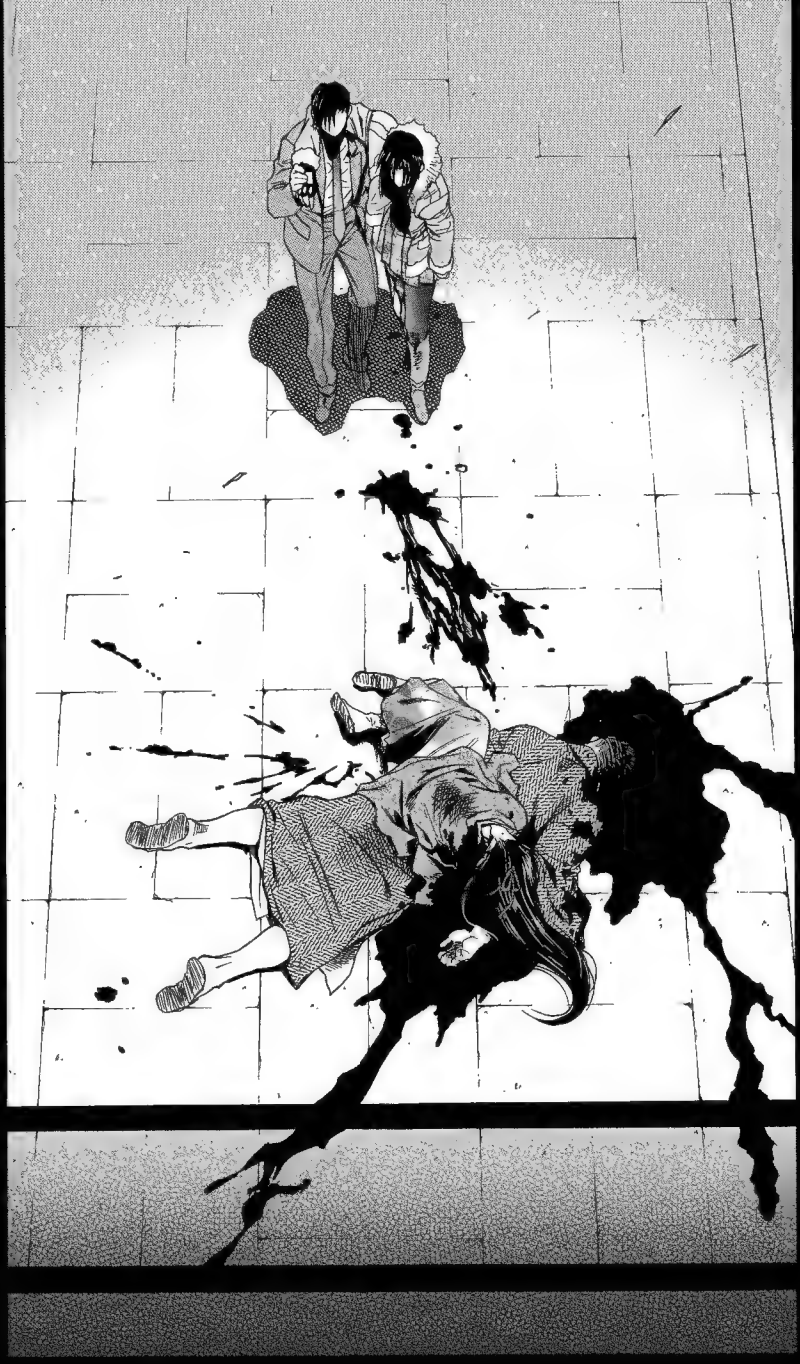
AGH!
ZWIP
AAA RRRGGGHHH!
SHLK
CLATTER
WHP
YOU OKAY?
LIFT UP YOUR LEG UP REVY.
THIS SHOULD STOP THE...
HUFF...
HUFF...

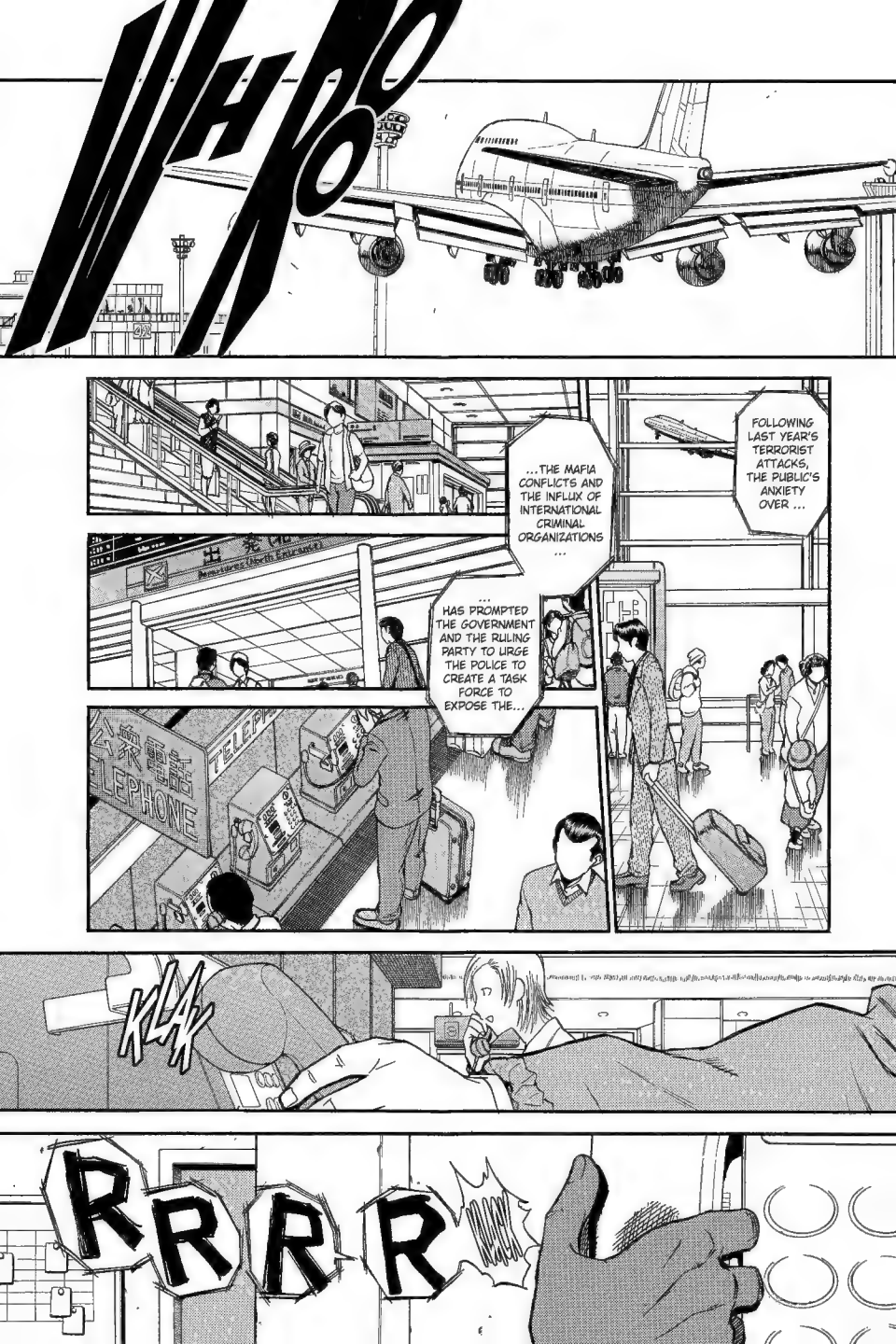
...
HOW...
...DID IT COME TO THIS?
RRRR

INSTEAD OF LIVING A LIE, YOU WERE BETTER OFF GETTING AWAY FROM IT.
YOU DIDN'T REALIZE THAT TILL THE END.
YOUR TWIST WAS IN SELF-DECEPTION.
YOU COULD'VE ESCAPED.
AND TOO YOUNG.
YOU WERE...
...TOO SMART FOR YOUR OWN GOOD.
THANKS TO YOU.
I'LL SEE EVERYTHING THROUGH TO THE END, THERE.
MAY I ASK YOU ONE THING?
WILL YOU CONTINUE...
...TO STAND IN THE TWILIGHT?

I'M VERY SORRY FOR YOUR TROUBLES.
...
WITH THIS ACT, ALL GRIEVANCES WILL BE LAID TO REST.
PLEASE TAKE THIS MESSAGE TO BALALAIKA.
ROCK!
IT'LL SCAR YOU. DON'T LOOK.
"TO THE PLACE YOU WILL ONE DAY COME."
"I WILL BE WAITING."
ROCK!
DON'T LOOK!

SHK!



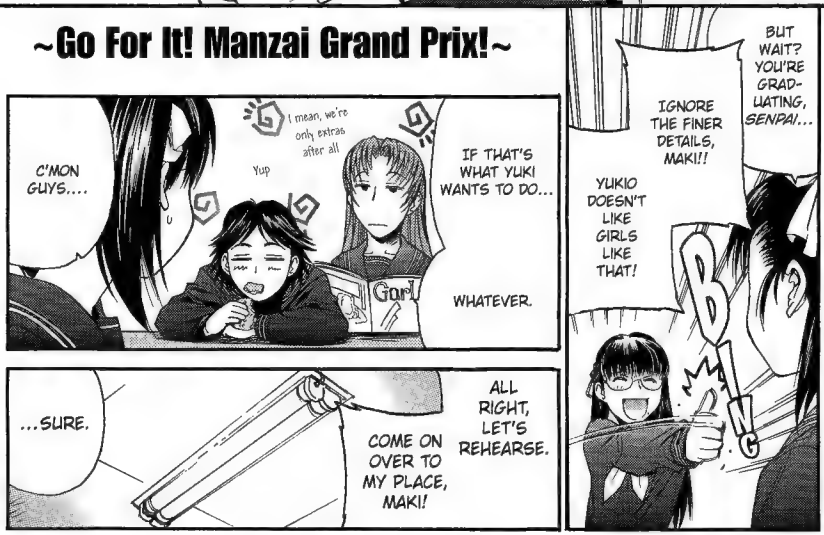

FOLLOWING LAST YEAR'S TERRORIST ATTACKS, THE PUBLIC'S ANXIETY OVER ...
...THE MAFIA CONFLICTS AND THE INFLUX OF INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL ORGANIZATIONS ...
... HAS PROMPTED THE GOVERNMENT AND THE RULING PARTY TO URGE THE POLICE TO CREATE A TASK FORCE TO EXPOSE THE...
TELEPHONE
KLAK
RRRR

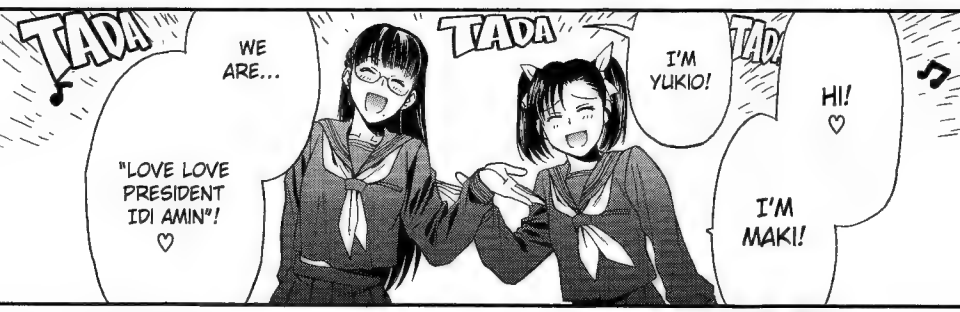
I FEEL LIKE I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU FOR A HUNDRED YEARS.
OH, IT'S YOU ROCK.
LAGOON TRADERS.
THE UNITED PAO ORGANIZATION WANTS SOME GUNS AGAIN.
WE GOT A JOB AS SOON AS YOU GET BACK.
WE'LL LAND IN ROANAPUR TONIGHT.
I'M SORRY IT WENT OVER SCHEDULE DUTCH.
THE PLAN IS TO MAKE THE DELIVERY TO THE PORT IN TSANWI THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW.
BENNY'S TAKING CARE OF THE BOOKS, BUT HE NEEDS MORE HELP.
YEAH, I'M LISTENING.
DUTCH?
HAVE YOU HEARD OF A FRENCH MAN WHO SAID...
"PEOPLE ARE LIKE DICE. WE THROW OURSELVES INTO LIFE"?
POOF
I'LL GET ON IT AS SOON AS I GET BACK. TELL BENNY I SAID I WAS SORRY.

AN ECCENTRIC OLD MAN WHO PRACTICED HIS THEORIES BY PLACING HIMSELF IN THE MIDDLE OF THE RESPONSIBILITIES AND CHOICES WE HAVE AS FREE CITIZENS.
YEAH, JEAN-PAUL SARTRE.
HE WAS AN EXISTENTIALIST PHILOSOPHER.
WHAT ABOUT IT?
I'M ACTUALLY QUITE THE INTELLECT. I KNOW ABOUT EVERYTHING FROM MAKING RAIN TO HUNTING ELEPHANTS.
TAK
YOU SEEM TO KNOW A LOT ABOUT HIM.
TIME FOR OUR FLIGHT, PARTNER.
THIS IS YOUR LAST LOOK AT JAPAN.
SO...
...SAY SAYONARA, FUJIYAMA.
NOTHING.
IT JUST... CLEARED UP SOMETHING FOR ME. THANKS.
ALL RIGHT.
I GOT A COLD BALI-HAI WAITING FOR YOU HERE.
WHAT'S WRONG?
ROCK?

ようこそ日本へ
WELCOME TO JAPAN
LET'S GO, REVY.
BACK TO WHERE WE BELONG.

~Go For It! Manzai Grand Prix!~





*MANZAI = JAPANESE STAND-UP COMEDY

By Rei Hiroe

HEY ?!
WHAT DOES IDI AMIN HAVE TO DO WITH US? ♡
SMACK
IDIOT. ♡
GASP!
S-S-S-SORRY SENPAI!
NO, NO, NO. NEVER MIND!!
I NEVER THOUGHT FOR A MOMENT THAT YOU HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO UNDERSTANDING OF COMEDY, SO DON'T WORRY.
GULP
...WHEN MISS...
...SAYS THINGS LIKE, "NEVER MIND" OR, "DON'T WORRY"...
SHE'S ACTUALLY DEATHLY CONCERNED ABOUT IT.
YOU SHOULD SEE HER WHEN SHE'S LIKE THAT. SHE LOSES SLEEP, SHE DOESN'T EAT...
GRR!
JUST LEAVE IT T'ME!
IT'S FOR OUR MISS, WE'LL PULL OUT ALL THE STOPS FOR HER!
THANK YOU! BUT THAT WON'T BE NECESSARY!
LET'S GET THIS SHOW ON THE ROAD THEN!
THE WAKAGASHIRA AND YOSHIDA GREW UP WATCHING MANZAI! KASHIRA! HIT IT, FELLAS!
HE DIDN'T HEAR A WORD I SAID!

TA
DA
TA
DA
TA
DA
I'M BANDO, THE WAKAGASHIRA.
I'LL TELL YA, THE WORLD IS FILLED WITH SCUMBAGS.
HELLO FOLKS, I'M YOSHIDA.
YEAH, YEAH. 'AT'S EXACTLY WHAT I THOUGHT.
WHAT A PUNK. HE NEEDS TO BE DISCIPLINED.
SO I SEZ, "HEY PUNK, HOW MUCH YOU THINK MY BENZ COSTS?! YOU THINK YOU CAN SCRATCH IT UP WITH A MEASLY TEN YEN COIN?!"
SEE, I HAD MY BENZ PARKED WHEN I WAS OUT MAKIN' COLLECTIONS.
AND SOME KID SCRATCHED MY CAR WIT' A TEN YEN COIN.
OH YEAH?
WHAT'D THEY DO TO YOU?
WHY TH' HELL'D'JA DO THAT?!
SHAP
"IF YOU'RE GONNA DO THAT, USE THIS," AND I HAND HIM A 500 YEN COIN...
SHP
UH-OH.
WHAM
KRAK
THUMP
SMACK
KRAK
THE REAL THING'S PRETTY INTENSE, HUH MISS?
VERY!
I'M SORRY, FORGIVE ME...
GWAAA!
HA HA HA HA HA
SO, TELL ME WHICH HAND YA USED TO SMACK YOUR ANIKI WITH, HUH?!

I'M SO DEAD.
I GOTTA DO HER IN BEFORE SHE DOES ME!!
THAT WAS EDUCATIONAL, WASN'T IT MAKI?
WE'LL BE A HIT AT THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL!
HEY YOSHI-BO.
YOU KNOW HOW YUKI AND MAKI WERE GONNA DO MANZAI?
BLAH
BLAH
BLAH
HUFF HUFF
MAMI...
WHAT'S GOING ON?
AND SO...
WEE
OOO WEE OOO
OOH, THAT'S SCARY.
OH LOOK, THERE'S MAKI.
sniffle whine
FOR SOME STRANGE REASON MAKI GRABBED A CROW BAR IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROUTINE AND FREAKED OUT.
YUKI'S UNCONSCIOUS AND THOSE GUYS WHOSE JOB TITLE BEGINS WITH "Y" BUSTED OUT KNIVES AND GUNS.
I'LL PASS.
We're calling it Trio Los Panchos.
SO ANYWAY, WE'RE GONNA BE DOING A TRIO-MANZAI.

CLOSING WORDS

HIROE HERE. IT'S VOLUME 5.

THE PACE OF THE RELEASE HAS BEEN SPED UP. IT WAS KINDA FORCED.

ANYWAY, THANK YOU FOR STAYING WITH ME THROUGH THE LONG AND HEAVY JAPAN STORY-ARC. THERE'S A LOT I WANT TO SAY, BUT I WOULD JUST LIKE TO SAY IT WOULD BE GREAT IF YOU COULD STICK WITH ME THROUGH THIS SMOKE-FILLED STORY.

I'D LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING:

MY EDITOR, MR. WOO.

ASSISTANTS B-RIVER (THANK YOU) ITAKO
TODA
AZUMA

COOPERATION
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OGAWA-CHI, BIH, AND MESUKINOKO
OGURA
AND YOU FOR READING THIS COMIC.

I'LL SEE YOU IN VOLUME 6.

REI HIROE

Volume 5, with surprisingly little time in between. Where's the sailor theme on the cover?! Liar!!

...FOR SOMETHING MORE?
I SPARED YOU YOUR LIFE.
DO YOU NOW WISH...
WELL THEN.
WE MUST BE GOING.
WHAT MORE COULD YOU WANT FROM US?
KILL EM ALL BABY!!
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN? I'M ALREADY DEAD.
THE MAN I WAS DIED THE DAY I MET YOU.

Rei Hiroe was born on December 5, 1972. After working at a game company, he debuted as a mangaka in 1993. He has been an active illustrator and dojinshi, and has created many titles released through the dojin community. He is best known for his works, ***Hisuikyoukitan*** and ***SHOOK UP!*** (both currently available in new formats published by Shogakukan), and his first artwork collection, ***Barrage***.

Revy's Guns – Sword Cutlass

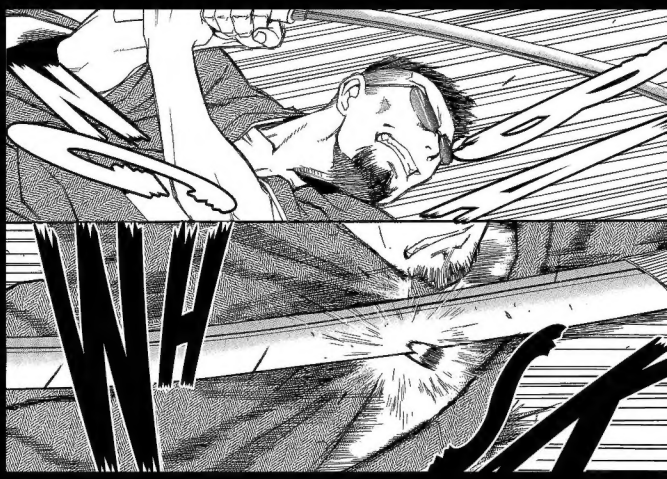
The Beretta M92 pistol was officially adopted as the primary sidearm of the U.S. military in 1985, replacing the venerable .45 cal Colt M1911A1. The design is very popular with police and military forces around the world and has been licensed in numerous countries, notably Brazil, which produces the Taurus PT-92. The M92 uses the 9mm Parabellum cartridge (9x19mm) and has a 15-round magazine.

The pirates of old used swords and cutlasses to take over their oceangoing prey. Revy, a modern-day pirate, is fully up-to-date, wielding her *Praiyachat Sword Cutlass Special*, a pair of customized Beretta M92's. Revy's gunsmith has given each gun a longer barrel and slide, and the safety has also been modified. The grips are made of ivory and have a skull engraved on them. Custom modifications like these cost a lot but improve the fit of the weapon to the user and her preferred shooting style. Revy might be cheap, but when it comes to the tools of her trade she obviously doesn't compromise.

Ginji's Sword – Shirasaya

In Japanese *shirasaya* (白鞘) literally means "white scabbard" and is the traditional way to store a katana. It consists of a simple, featureless wooden scabbard and hilt. The Japanese katana of course has a much more decorative hilt and scabbard, but keeping these attached when not on display can damage the blade, thus specialized storage furniture is necessary.

Ginji's use of a *shirasaya* type sword continues the cinematic tradition of their use by the yakuza. In Japan, real swords with a cutting edge are strictly regulated and registered. By utilizing *shirasaya*, yakuza avoid legitimate sword handlers and therefore any unwelcome paperwork and scrutiny by the law. These types of swords are also generally cheaper due to their lack of ornamentation, and the smooth scabbard makes the *shirasaya* much easier to carry concealed under a coat. Not that Ginji needs to hide it—if he's got it in his hand you know he means business!



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BLACK LAGOON
VOL. 5
VIZ Signature Edition

Story and Art by
REI HIROE

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Music by Guitar Wolf
Lyrics by Guitar Wolf and Toru Aoyagi
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